UNITED NATIONS **S**

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S/1999/191
23 February 1999
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 23 FEBRUARY 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of note verbale No. 034/04/80-192 dated 7 February 1999 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates addressed to the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Abu Dhabi. It protests against the opening by Mr. Abdolwahed Mousavi Lari, the Iranian Minister of the Interior, of a municipal office and an educational institution on Abu Musa, an island which belongs to the United Arab Emirates.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammad J. SAMHAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates presents its compliments to the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Abu Dhabi.

It wishes to inform the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran that the opening by Mr. Abdolwahed Mousavi Lari, Minister of the Interior of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on 5 February 1999, according to reports in the official Iranian media, of a municipal office and an educational institution on Abu Musa, an island which belongs to the United Arab Emirates, is to be regarded as a flagrant violation by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran of the memorandum of understanding concerning Abu Musa concluded between the two countries in 1971. This act is to be regarded as imposing an unlawful state of affairs and as constituting an attempt to perpetuate the occupation of the island, alter its demographic composition and bring it under Iranian sovereignty by force.

Accordingly, the Government of the United Arab Emirates strongly protests to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran against this unlawful action. It regards this and all previous measures taken by the Iranian Government on Abu Musa as unwarranted acts of provocation that do not confer any rights on the Islamic Republic of Iran with respect to the island.

The United Arab Emirates reaffirms its sovereignty over Abu Musa. It once again affirms that it does not recognize any other sovereignty over the island, and it reserves all its rights with regard thereto.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs takes this opportunity to convey to the Embassy the assurances of its highest consideration.

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S/1999/192
23 February 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 23 FEBRUARY 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ETHIOPIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you a statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia, issued today, 23 February 1999, entitled "Appeasing the Aggressor Must End" (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Duri MOHAMMED
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

99-05025 (E) 240299

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Annex

Statement by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia issued on 23 February 1999 in Addis Ababa entitled "Appeasing the Aggressor Must End"

No one, if honest, can question Ethiopia's commitment to the peaceful resolution of the conflict imposed on our people by Eritrea through the aggression carried out first in May last year, culminating in the latest offensive it mounted on 6 February 1999. In between, there was little Ethiopia left undone to avert war and to seek a peaceful resolution of the crisis.

The road to peace has been and is being blocked by Eritrea. The Organization of African Unity (OAU) Framework Agreement provides the key to peace and the answer for avoiding the escalation of the conflict, which Ethiopia has done so much to avoid over the past eight months.

The OAU Framework Agreement was not drafted by Ethiopia just as the peace proposals made earlier by the United States of America and Rwanda were not. The OAU peace proposal, which in the Security Council's judgement is the "best hope" for peace and is "fair and balanced", has in effect been rejected by Eritrea. What is Ethiopia expected to do under these circumstances? What would other self-respecting nations have done under similar circumstances? All the more so when those who have consistently refused to accept peace proposals decided to raise the ante by launching another major offensive, as Eritrea did on 6 February 1999 after having violated the air moratorium the previous day.

It is in the light of this that the statement issued on 22 February 1999 by the spokesman of the United States State Department sounds very strange indeed and out of step with the reality. It is not only air strikes that would be unnecessary, but all fighting would be made unnecessary if Eritrea were to commit itself to peace and to withdrawal from Ethiopian territory. This is the truth and these are the facts.

The talk about an air moratorium at a time when a full-scale war is raging and when, because of Eritrean aggression and intransigence, two armies are throwing at each other whatever legitimate weapons they have is amazingly naive and amounts to showing a lack of seriousness about the magnitude of the crime committed by the Eritrean authorities. While the just demand would have been even at this late hour a call on Eritrea to undo its aggression and to assist Ethiopia to achieve peace, the spokesman of the State Department chose to talk about an air moratorium and to insinuate about air strikes by Ethiopia against economic targets and population centres. This is as false as it is unjustified.

Ethiopia is exercising its right of self-defence. When it does this, it is with scrupulous observance of principles of humanitarian laws and the Geneva Conventions.

Ethiopia, unlike Eritrea, has never made civilians targets, either in its air strikes or in its ground counter-offensive. The track record of Eritrea in this respect is pretty much known to the United States State Department, and

there is no need for it to be reiterated. What needs to be reiterated is that Ethiopia is facing an enemy that has no moral scruples and that has proved capable of deliberately staging air strikes against schools, as Eritrea so shamelessly did in June of last year. If those who failed to respond to that atrocity in the proper manner could not feel remorse, they should at least now tell the truth, and the truth is what is stated in the foregoing. This is not an Ethiopian version of the truth. It is the truth, plain and simple, accepted by all those involved in the attempt to broker peace between Ethiopia and Eritrea, most of all by OAU, whose proposals for peace are still on the table, rudely rejected by Eritrea while Ethiopia still awaits their implementation, having accepted them a long time ago. The spokesman of the State Department probably felt this was not important and therefore not worth mentioning. For Ethiopia, this is the crux of the matter.

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S/1999/193
23 February 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 22 FEBRUARY 1999 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF LIBERIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I present my compliments to you and, upon instruction of my Government, have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement issued on 19 January 1999 by the Government of Liberia on the Sierra Leonean crisis (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Famatta R. OSODE
Chargé d'Affaires, a.i.

99-04919 (E) 240299

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Annex

Statement of the Government of Liberia on the Sierra Leonean crisis, issued on 19 February 1999

The ongoing fighting in the sister Republic of Sierra Leone is hurting the subregion politically, economically and diplomatically. As a founding member of the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Mano River Union, Liberia values its historic role in world affairs, especially in African emancipation, independence and conflict resolution. This role places a compelling responsibility on the Government and people of Liberia to continue working for a final resolution of the Sierra Leonean conflict.

Liberia is sensitive to the international concerns that have been expressed regarding its alleged complicity in the Sierra Leonean crisis. The Government of Liberia is cognizant of the adverse effect that this state of affairs is having on the maintenance of peace, unity, stability and progress in Liberia, in the ECOWAS subregion and the larger international community. At the same time, the Government is outraged by the nature and level of atrocities attending the war in Sierra Leone. The use of children as soldiers and the maiming of fellow Sierra Leoneans are unconscionable. This malevolent human tragedy must be stopped.

The Government of Liberia recognizes the efforts of ECOWAS to restore and maintain peace in the subregion and, as a member of the Committee of Six, wishes to restate its support for the ECOWAS peace plan for Sierra Leone.

In this regard, the Government of Liberia reaffirms its recognition of the elected Government of President Ahmed Tejan Kabbah as the legitimate Government of Sierra Leone. The Government of Liberia states further that it has not and will not support, nor be a party to any attempt to destabilize the Republic of Sierra Leone or any other country.

As a democratically elected Government, the Government of Liberia has not and will not support any attempt by insurgents, including the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) and the Armed Forces Revolutionary Council (AFRC) or other armed dissidents to destabilize or remove the legitimate Government of Sierra Leone from office.

The Government of Liberia has consistently maintained that the war in Sierra Leone is internal and, relying on its experience, believes and hopes that the conflict in Sierra Leone can and should be resolved through dialogue and negotiation. This approach remains a constructive path to sustainable peace and national reconciliation in the Republic of Sierra Leone.

The Government of Liberia has consistently argued that Liberian citizens have been used as mercenaries in the Sierra Leonean conflict by successive governments of Sierra Leone, the RUF/AFRC, the Kamajors and the ECOWAS Monitoring Group (ECOMOG).

The Government of Liberia notes the existence of legal instruments that prohibit its nationals from serving as mercenaries. These instruments include international conventions and protocols, particularly the Non-Aggression and Security Cooperation Treaty between countries comprising the Mano River Union. Most importantly, chapter eleven of the Liberian penal code, subsection 11.13 on mercenaries, provides for life imprisonment or the death penalty for convicted mercenaries.

In view of this notation, the Government of Liberia has repeatedly called on its citizens to disengage from the conflict in Sierra Leone and return home.

In furtherance of the efforts of the Government of Liberia to discourage Liberian citizens from complicating the crisis in Sierra Leone and to ensure compliance with the laws and conventions relating to mercenaries, the Government of Liberia undertakes the following:

1. Renews its call on the Government of Sierra Leone and all parties to the conflict in that country to abolish the use of Liberians as mercenaries;

2. As a matter of urgency, the Government of Liberia requests the United Nations to assist the Governments of Sierra Leone and Liberia in identifying, documenting and processing Liberians fighting in Sierra Leone for an organized repatriation;

3. Amnesty will be granted to those Liberians involved in the Sierra Leonean conflict who will cooperate with the voluntary repatriation programme. This amnesty takes immediate effect and will expire within forty-five (45) days from the date of this statement;

4. At the end of the voluntary repatriation exercise, the Government of Liberia, working with the Government of Sierra Leone, will arrest and prosecute, to the full extent of the law, any Liberian citizen found to still be engaged in the ongoing armed conflict in Sierra Leone;

5. In order to support the productive reintegration of ex-combatants and returnees and to prevent their cycling into lawlessness and violent activities anywhere, the Government of Liberia hereby appeals for assistance from the Government of the United States of America and countries of the European Union. Liberia also appeals for assistance from the United Nations system, in particular, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Food Programme (WFP);

6. The Government of Liberia hereby calls for the immediate appointment of members of the Joint Security Liaison Committee provided for in the Mano River Union Non-Aggression and Security Cooperation Treaty between Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea. In order to enhance security and confidence within the Mano River Union, the Government of

Liberia hereby requests the convening of a summit of the Mano River Union;

7. The Government of Liberia renews its request to the Government of Sierra Leone to accept the joint patrol and monitoring of the Liberian/Sierra Leonean border. The Government of Liberia again solicits assistance from the United States of America and the European Union to facilitate this joint border patrol to ensure compliance with all existing resolutions on Sierra Leone;

8. The Government of Liberia renews its request to the Security Council to approve deployment of United Nations monitors along with ECOMOG forces at the Liberian/Sierra Leonean border;

9. The Government of Liberia shall relocate all refugee camps further inland to discourage any attempt to use those camps for subversive activities against the Government of Sierra Leone. To this end, the Liberian Government again calls on UNHCR to assist in the inland transfer of all refugees from areas near its borders with Sierra Leone;

10. The Government of Liberia reinforces its directives to all its security forces to be on maximum alert, with specific instructions to vigorously patrol the borders and to further intensify customs and immigration procedures at all sea and air ports as well as other points of entry. The national security agencies are further mandated to continue to ensure that no cross-border movement of arms takes place and that there be no transshipment of arms and ammunition through Liberian territory.

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23 February 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 23 FEBRUARY 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF UKRAINE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the statement issued by the Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) of Ukraine, on 19 February 1999, regarding the settlement of the Kosovo problem (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would kindly have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Volodymyr YEL'CHENKO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Ukraine
to the United Nations

99-04874 (E) 230299

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Annex

Statement issued by the Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) of Ukraine on 19 February 1999

Consistently adhering to the principles of peaceful settlement of international problems, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine strongly condemns the intention to solve the problem of Kosovo and Metohija by means of force, including the bombardment of the whole of Yugoslavia. Blackmailing the Yugoslav side with the deployment of troops in Kosovo, that is, encroaching upon the territorial integrity of a sovereign State, unleashes destructive forces which may actually provoke an armed conflict in the centre of Europe.

With this in mind, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine appeals to the Security Council of the United Nations and to the Parliaments and Governments of the whole world to do their utmost to avert armed conflict, which is fraught with the danger of turning into a world war.

The Verkhovna Rada requests the President and the Government of Ukraine to bring this position to the notice of all the European and world institutions, spearheaded by the United Nations, and to contribute personally to the solely peaceful settlement of the Kosovo problem.

We also call upon both conflicting parties to begin a peaceful dialogue for the sake of preserving quiet in the Balkans and in all of Europe.

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S/1999/194*
26 February 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 23 FEBRUARY 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF UKRAINE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the statement issued by the Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) of Ukraine, on 19 February 1999, regarding the settlement of the Kosovo problem (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would kindly have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Volodymyr YEL'CHENKO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Ukraine
to the United Nations

* Reissued for technical reasons.

99-05368 (E) 260299

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Annex

Statement issued by the Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) of Ukraine on 19 February 1999

Consistently adhering to the principles of peaceful settlement of international problems, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine strongly condemns the intention to solve the problem of Kosovo and Metohija by means of force, including the bombardment of the whole of Yugoslavia. The destructive forces, by blackmailing the Yugoslav side with the deployment of troops in Kosovo, that is, encroaching upon the territorial integrity of a sovereign State, actually provoke an armed conflict in the centre of Europe.

With this in mind, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine appeals to the Security Council of the United Nations and to the Parliaments and Governments of the whole world to do their utmost to avert armed conflict, which is fraught with the danger of turning into a world war.

The Verkhovna Rada requests the President and the Government of Ukraine to bring this position to the notice of all the European and world institutions, spearheaded by the United Nations, and to contribute personally to the solely peaceful settlement of the Kosovo problem.

We also call upon both conflicting parties to embark on a peaceful dialogue for the sake of preserving quiet in the Balkans and in all of Europe.

UNITED NATIONS **S**

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S/1999/195
23 February 1999
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 22 FEBRUARY 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that 370 mines, bombs, missiles and other unexploded ordnance left behind by the 1991 30-Power aggression against Iraq were found and disposed of in all parts of the country between 1 December 1998 and 31 January 1999. The items included American-made cluster bombs as well as spherical bomblets, strip bombs, aerial bombs and artillery shells, and they were found in the following governorates: Baghdad, Ninawa, Basrah, Najaf, Salah al-Din, Maysan, Muthanna, Ta'mim, Diyala, Wasit, Anbar, Babil, Qadisiyah and Dhi Qar.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

99-04903 (E) 240299 250299

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23 February 1999
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 22 FEBRUARY 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 21 February 1999 from Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq, giving details of the fresh incursion into northern Iraq carried out by the Turkish armed forces and calling on you to do your utmost to urge the Turkish Government to observe the norms enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and in international law by withdrawing its armed forces from Iraq's territory forthwith.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Permanent Representative

99-04909 (E) 240299 240299

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Annex

Letter dated 21 February 1999 from the Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

Further to my letter dated 9 November 1998 addressed to you (S/1998/1049, annex), I should like to call your attention to the fact that on 17 February 1999 units of the Turkish armed forces supported by fighter aircraft and helicopters carried out a fresh incursion into northern Iraq by way of the Ibrahim al-Khalil crossing and through the Rabkah area north-east of Zakho and surrounding areas as far as the Iraq-Iran-Turkey tripoint. This incursion has caused serious losses in terms of lives and property to Iraqi citizens among our Kurdish people in the area, to say nothing of the damage done to public property. In a statement made on 17 February 1999, Turkish Prime Minister Bûlent Ecevit confirmed this incursion and reiterated the same pretexts previously given by the Turkish Government to justify these open acts of aggression against Iraq, as exemplified by that alleging the pursuit of groups that pose a threat to Turkish national security.

The Government of Iraq condemns in the strongest terms this violation of its territory and airspace by the Turkish armed forces, and it calls upon the Turkish Government to withdraw its invading forces from Iraqi territory forthwith and to desist from any repetition of practices that are incompatible with relations of good neighbourliness and the principles of international law and of the Charter of the United Nations. The Government of Iraq further rejects outright the pretexts advanced by Turkey to justify such operations, given that the alleged pursuit of elements that pose a threat to Turkish national security does not make it legitimate for it to implement a policy that is entirely at odds with Turkey's declared commitment to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraq.

Turkey's distress is fundamentally due to the persistence of the anomalous situation that was created by the United States and the United Kingdom in the area in cooperation with the Government of Turkey itself.

The Government of Iraq reserves the right to seek compensation for the damage caused by these unlawful actions, it renews its call to the Government of Turkey to put a halt to operations that violate Iraq's sovereignty and place its security and integrity in great jeopardy, and it urges Turkey to give concrete expression to its professed respect for the norms of good neighbourliness between States. As I express the hope that the United Nations will fulfil its responsibilities as stipulated in the Charter and will prevent the constant intimidation and aggression to which my country is being subjected, I request you to do your utmost to urge the Turkish Government to observe the norms enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and in international law by withdrawing its armed forces from Iraq's territory forthwith.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Tariq AZIZ
Deputy Prime Minister
and Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Iraq

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

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S/1999/197
24 February 1999
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

LETTER DATED 19 FEBRUARY 1999 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF CUBA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to write to you with reference to the summary statement issued on 15 January 1999 by the Secretary-General on matters of which the Security Council is seized and on the stage reached in their consideration (S/1999/25).

In this connection I have the honour to inform you that the Government of Cuba is interested in having all items contained in the aforementioned document that have been brought to the attention of the Security Council by Cuba retained on the list of matters of which the Security Council is seized.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Rafael DAUSÁ CÉSPEDES
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

99-05054 (E) 250299 250299

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

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S/1999/198
24 February 1999
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 22 FEBRUARY 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that violations of Iraq's airspace by United States and British aircraft continued between 1 and 15 February 1999 and that the aircraft in question carried out reconnaissance and engaged in acts of provocation, as set forth in the annex hereto.

Your intervention is requested with a view to bringing a halt to actions that, as flagrant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and of international law, pose a threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Iraq.

These actions continue to alarm the civilian population and to cause serious damage to private and public property. The Republic of Iraq affirms its right to seek legal compensation for the damage being inflicted on its people by these actions.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

99-05036 (E) 240299 250299

Annex

Violations by United States and British aircraft and damage caused, 1-15 February 1999

1. In the northern region 167 sorties were flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 13,000 metres over the following cities and towns: Irbil, Dohuk, Mosul, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Tall Afar, Ayn Zalah, Zakho, Rawanduz, Baibo and Sinjar.

2. In the southern region 448 sorties were flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 12,000 metres over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Nasiriyah, Samawah, Basrah, Diwaniyah, Najaf, Karbala', Amarah, Kut, Artawi, Ushbayjah, Jalibah, Salman, Busayyah, Qurnah, Shinafiyah, Rumaythah, Rifa'i, Mu'aniyah, Umm Qasr, Safwan, Qal'at Salih, Lasaf, Qal'at Sukkar, Ali al-Gharbi, Hawr al-Hammar, Madinah, Ansab, Nukhayb, Afak, Suq al-Shuyukh, Chabaish, Najaf South, Hayy, Hashimiyah, Malutiyat, Shatrah, Shu'aybah, Faw and Maymunah.

3. At 1023 hours on 1 February 1999 United States and British aircraft violated Iraq's airspace over Umm Qasr.

4. At 1145, 1225, 1306, 1330, 1635 and 1740 hours on 2 February 1999 United States and British aircraft violated Iraq's airspace over Umm Qasr.

5. At 1310 hours on 2 February 1999 a formation of United States and British aircraft intruded and fired two missiles at a civilian locality in the Faw area. One civilian resident was killed and others were wounded in the bombardment. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove them off.

6. At 1137 hours on 2 February 1999 20 United States and British formations coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti airspace and supported by two AWACS early-warning aircraft inside Saudi airspace violated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 24 sorties from Kuwaiti airspace and 32 from Saudi airspace, and Saudi pilots took part. They fired three missiles in the Faw area. At 1800 hours on the same day a further seven United States and British formations coming from Kuwaiti airspace and supported from there by an E-2C aircraft and five formations coming from Saudi airspace and supported by an AWACS early-warning aircraft violated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 26 sorties inside Iraqi territory, attacked civilian localities in Najaf Governorate and bombarded a food supply centre. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove them off.

7. At 1234 hours on 2 February 1999 12 United States and British formations coming from Turkish airspace and supported from there by an AWACS early-warning aircraft violated Iraq's airspace in the northern region and carried out 28 sorties. At 1519 hours on 2 February 1999 United States and British formations attacked a civilian locality in Ninawa Governorate and fired three missiles at it. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove them off.

8. At 1840 hours on 2 February 1999 United States and British aircraft violated Iraq's airspace in Najaf Governorate and fired four missiles at a civilian locality. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove them off.

9. At 1520, 1526 and 1530 hours on 2 February 1999 United States and British aircraft violated Iraq's airspace in the northern region and bombarded a civilian locality. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove them off.

10. At 0920, 1447, 1505 and 1545 hours on 6 February 1999 United States and British aircraft violated Iraq's airspace in the Basrah and Umm Qasr areas.

11. At 0836, 0854, 0920, 0938, 1003 and 1655 hours on 7 February 1999 United States and British aircraft violated Iraq's airspace in the Faw and Umm Qasr areas.

12. At 1017, 1200, 1300 and 1610 hours on 8 February 1999 United States and British aircraft violated Iraq's airspace in the Faw and Umm Qasr areas.

13. At 1035 hours on 9 February 1999 11 United States and British formations coming from Turkish airspace violated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. These formations included a number of F-14s, F-15s and F-16s. They carried out 21 sorties and were supported by an AWACS early-warning aircraft from inside Turkish airspace. They fired a number of missiles at a civilian locality and our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove them off.

14. At 1100 hours on 9 February 1999 12 formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti airspace and including a number of F-14s, F-15s and F-16s violated Iraq's airspace. They carried out 12 sorties from Kuwaiti airspace and 12 from Saudi airspace, and they were supported by an AWACS early-warning aircraft from inside Saudi airspace.

15. At 1242 hours on 9 February 1999 United States and British aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in the northern region and fired a guided projectile at a civilian locality. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove them off.

16. At 1205 hours on 10 February 1999 United States and British aircraft violated Iraqi airspace in Dhi Qar Governorate and fired nine missiles at a civilian locality. A number of residents were killed and wounded in the bombardment. At 1220 hours on the same day United States and British aircraft fired two missiles at a civilian locality in Najaf Governorate. A number of residents were killed and wounded in the bombardment. At 1920 hours on the same day United States and British aircraft fired four missiles at a civilian locality in the Shu'aybah area. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove them off.

17. At 1057 hours on 10 February 1999 10 United States and British formations coming from Turkish airspace violated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. These formations included F-14s, F-15s and F-16s and were supported by an AWACS

early-warning aircraft from inside Turkish airspace. At 1250 hours on the same day they returned to Turkish territory.

18. At 1133 hours on 10 February 1999 12 United States and British formations coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti airspace violated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. These formations included F-14s, F-15s and F-16s. They carried out 18 sorties from Saudi airspace and nine from Kuwaiti airspace, and they were supported by an AWACS early-warning aircraft from inside Saudi airspace. They fired 14 projectiles and missiles at a number of civilian localities in Dhi Qar and Najaf Governorates. The enemy bombardment killed and wounded a number of civilian residents. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove them off.

19. At 1738 hours on 10 February 1999 seven United States and British formations, two coming from Saudi airspace and five from Kuwaiti airspace, violated Iraq's airspace. They carried out eight sorties from Kuwaiti airspace and 14 from Saudi airspace, and they were supported by an AWACS early-warning aircraft from inside Saudi airspace. They fired four missiles at a civilian locality in the Shu'aybah area of Basrah Governorate. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove them off.

20. At 1200 hours on 11 February 1999 United States and British aircraft violated Iraq's airspace in the Mosul area and fired three missiles at a civilian locality south of Mosul city. At 1331 and 1344 hours on the same day United States and British aircraft fired seven projectiles at a civilian locality in the Mosul area. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove them off.

21. At 1850 and 1855 hours on 11 February 1999 United States and British aircraft violated Iraq's airspace in the Amarah area and fired four projectiles at a civilian locality in Amarah and another four at a civilian locality in Nukhayb in Najaf Governorate.

22. At 1135 hours on 11 February 1999 11 United States and British formations coming from Turkish airspace and supported from there by an AWACS early-warning aircraft violated Iraq's airspace in the northern region and overflew the Dohuk and Ninawa areas. They carried out 23 sorties and fired 16 projectiles and missiles at civilian installations in Ninawa Governorate. A number of civilian residents were killed and wounded in the bombardment. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove them off.

23. At 1150 hours on 11 February 1999 nine formations of United States and British aircraft supported by an AWACS early-warning aircraft and an E-2C aircraft from inside Saudi and Kuwaiti territory respectively violated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 14 sorties from Kuwaiti airspace and 30 from Saudi airspace, and they overflew the Basrah, Dhi Qar, Muthanna and Najaf areas. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove them off. At 1745 hours on the same day 12 formations of United States and British aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti airspace violated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 18 sorties from Kuwaiti airspace and 22 from Saudi airspace, and they were supported by an AWACS early-warning aircraft from inside Saudi airspace and an

E-2C aircraft from inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Amarah, Suq al-Shuyukh and Nasiriyah areas and fired eight projectiles and missiles at a number of civilian localities in the south-west. A number of civilian residents were wounded in the bombardment. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove them off.

24. At 1058 hours on 12 February 1999 11 United States and British formations violated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. These formations included F-14s, F-15s and F-16s, and they were supported by an AWACS early-warning aircraft from inside Turkish airspace. They carried out 21 sorties and fired three missiles at civilian installation in Mosul city. A number of civilian residents were killed and wounded. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove them off.

25. At 1505 hours on 13 February 1999 14 United States and British formations coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti airspace violated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out eight sorties from Saudi airspace, supported by an AWACS early-warning aircraft from inside Saudi airspace, and 26 sorties from Kuwaiti airspace, supported by an E-2C aircraft from inside Kuwaiti airspace. These formations included F-14s, F-15s and F-18s, and they overflew the Basrah, Maysan, Dhi Qar and Najaf areas and bombarded a civilian installation in Dhi Qar Governorate. A number of civilian residents were killed and wounded in the bombardment. The aggressor aircraft also bombarded an anchorage for fishing boats and a residential neighbourhood in Faw, and a number of civilian residents, including women, were wounded in the bombardment. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove them off.

26. At 1110 and 1325 hours on 12 February 1999 United States and British aircraft violated Iraq's airspace in the northern region and fired one projectile at a civilian locality in the Mosul area. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove them off.

27. At 1535 and 1625 hours on 13 February United States and British aircraft violated Iraq's airspace in the southern region and fired four projectiles at a civilian locality. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove them off.

28. At 1134 hours on 15 February 1999 United States and British aircraft violated Iraq's airspace in the southern region and fired a number of projectiles at a civilian locality in the Rifa'i area. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove them off.

29. At 1125 and 1210 hours on 15 February United States and British aircraft violated Iraq's airspace in the northern region and fired two missiles and a projectile at a civilian locality in Ninawa Governorate. Our air defence units, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and drove them off.

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/199
24 February 1999
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 24 FEBRUARY 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 23 February 1999 from Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq, concerning contracts for spare parts for the oil sector in phase IV of the oil-for-food programme and the action taken by the representatives of the United States of America and the United Kingdom to put these contracts on hold in the Security Council Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) on flimsy pretexts in order to damage Iraq. Your personal intervention is requested with a view to having the spurious holds on these contracts lifted immediately, in keeping with the provisions of Security Council resolution 1175 (1998).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 23 February 1999 from the Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

I refer to my letter of 26 October 1998 to you (S/1998/996) and your letter dated 15 April 1998 addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/1998/330), in which you recommended that the Security Council should authorize Iraq to import spare parts and equipment valued at $300 million in accordance with lists to be prepared by the relevant Iraqi authorities, in cooperation with the group of experts from the Saybolt Company, and incorporated in the categorized list annexed to the procurement and distribution plan for phase IV that was subsequently approved by you on 29 May 1998. On that basis, the Security Council endorsed your recommendation in its resolution 1175 (1998) of 19 June 1998.

More than eight months have passed since resolution 1175 (1998) was adopted. I should like to inform you of the situation with respect to contracts for spare parts for the oil sector as at 16 February 1999. A total of 513 contracts have been submitted to the secretariat of the Security Council Committee established by resolution 661 (1990). Of these, 455 have been distributed to the members of the Committee, and the Committee has approved 347 of them, while 102 are still on hold, no final disposition having been made as yet.

The representatives of the United States of America and the United Kingdom on the Committee have resorted to the same flimsy pretexts that they have routinely used in the past, namely that the spare parts and equipment in question are unrelated to increased exports of oil and may be dual-purpose items, that they are not included in the oil-for-food programme, and that more time is needed to obtain additional data or for further technical evaluation by the Committee.

In reality, these delaying tactics on the part of the representatives of the United States of America and the United Kingdom seek only to further a political aim of their respective Governments, namely, to inflict damage on Iraq. It is noteworthy that after a protracted period of delaying tactics and the passage of a substantial length of time, a hold may be lifted even though there have been no alterations or amendments to the contract concerned or to any of its terms or specifications. This shows that the contract had essentially been put on hold for reasons unrelated to those originally alleged by the above-mentioned representatives.

The conduct of the representatives of the United States of America and the United Kingdom is indicative of the animosity of those countries' Administrations toward Iraq and its people, and of their persistent efforts to prevent the oil sector from obtaining the supplies and inputs it needs in order to maintain and develop its production system. Those efforts coincide with a campaign undertaken by the Governments in Washington and London to undermine Iraq's security and stability and interfere in its internal affairs.

While we appreciate your efforts, we seek your personal intervention with the Security Council Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) in order to urge the expeditious processing of contracts for the purchase of oil-related spare parts and equipment and the immediate lifting of the spurious holds placed on pending contracts, in keeping with the provisions of Security Council resolution 1175 (1998).

As I await whatever measures you may take, I request you to have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Tariq AZIZ

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/200
24 February 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 24 FEBRUARY 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to attach the press communiqué by the Mouvement de libération du peuple centrafricaine, National Political Council, of the Central African Republic on matters of concern to the Security Council.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Antonio Deinde FERNANDEZ
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

99-05048 (E) 240299 240299

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Annex

[Original: French]

Press release issued at Banqui on 23 February 1999

The National Political Council, the decision-making body of the Mouvement de libération du peuple centrafricain (MLPC), met in special session in Bangui from 20 to 23 February 1999 to analyse the political situation following the legislative elections of 22 November and 13 December 1998. It welcomed the calm atmosphere in which these elections were held, which bears witness to the political maturity of the Central African people.

The National Political Council wishes to thank the international community, and in particular the United Nations through its Mission in the Central African Republic (MINURCA), the donor countries, the various contact groups and all those of good will who helped bring about the success of these elections.

The National Political Council also welcomes the effective establishment of the institutions provided for in the Constitution.

During its work, the National Political Council, at its request, heard an important announcement by the President of the National Assembly, who is a member of the National Political Council, on talks that had taken place with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the ambassadors of countries friendly to the Central African Republic and members of the United Nations Security Council on the so-called parliamentary crisis in the Central African Republic.

In this context, it should be recalled that the presidential majority, in the presence of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Ambassadors of France, the United States of America, China and Egypt and the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations had made significant concessions to the opposition in order to constitute the Bureau of the National Assembly.

Since these concessions were rejected by the opposition, the National Assembly was forced to constitute its Bureau to remain in conformity with article 48 of the Constitution and article 5 of its Rules of Procedure.

However, in view of the intransigence of the opposition on the one hand, and the insistence of the group of countries friendly towards the Central African Republic and members of the United Nations Security Council on the other hand, the Bureau of the National Assembly agreed to additional concessions to convince the opposition to return to the already constituted Bureau, namely, 5 seats out of 11, 3 out of 7 chairmanships of standing committees and the post of Secretary-General of the National Assembly.

The National Political Council (CPN) considers these concessions to be an act of willingness on the part of the government deputies to have all those who

were elected by the nation participate in the running of the National Assembly, in order to ease the political tensions once again.

Therefore, the National Political Council makes an urgent appeal:

- To the opposition deputies to return to the hall of the National Assembly on 1 March 1999;

- To the United Nations Security Council to renew the mandate of MINURCA so that it may supervise the forthcoming presidential elections.

By order of the National Political Council

(Signed) K. Gabriel J. ELOUBA
Second Vice-President

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/201
25 February 1999
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH AND FRENCH

Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Slovenia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America: draft resolution

The Security Council,

Recalling all its previous relevant resolutions concerning the conflicts in the Former Yugoslavia, in particular its resolutions 795 (1992) of 11 December 1992, in which it addressed possible developments which could undermine confidence and stability in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia or threaten its territory, 1142 (1997) of 4 December 1997 and 1186 (1998) of 21 July 1998,

Recalling also its resolution 1160 (1998) of 31 March 1998, in which it decided that all States shall prevent the sale or supply to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, including Kosovo, of arms and related matériel of all types and shall prevent arming and training for terrorist activities there, and its resolutions 1199 (1998) of 23 September 1998 and 1203 (1998) of 24 October 1998, in which it expressed its concern at the situation in Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia,

Underlining the continuing importance of the role of the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force (UNPREDEP) in monitoring the border areas and reporting to the Secretary-General on any developments which could pose a threat to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and by its presence deterring threats and preventing clashes, including monitoring and reporting on illicit arms flows within its area of responsibility,

Commending the personnel of UNPREDEP for their dedication in the continued performance of their mandate and for their contribution to the maintenance of peace and stability in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and in the region,

Reiterating its call on the Governments of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to implement in full their agreement of 8 April 1996 (S/1996/291, annex), in particular regarding the demarcation of their mutual border,

Taking note of the letter of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to the Secretary-General of 29 January 1999 regarding the extension of the mandate of UNPREDEP (S/1999/108),

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 12 February 1999 (S/1999/161),

Reaffirming its commitment to the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia,

1. Decides to extend the current mandate of UNPREDEP for a period of six months until 31 August 1999, including to continue by its presence to deter threats and prevent clashes, to monitor the border areas, and to report to the Secretary-General any developments which could pose a threat to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, including the tasks of monitoring and reporting on illicit arms flows and other activities that are prohibited under resolution 1160 (1998);

2. Decides to remain seized of the matter.

UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/202
24 February 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE UNITED NATIONS OBSERVER MISSION IN ANGOLA (MONUA)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to the request of the Security Council in its presidential statement of 21 January (S/PRST/1999/3), in which the Council, inter alia, requested me to report to it on consultations with the Government of Angola on a continued multidisciplinary presence of the United Nations. It covers developments since my last report of 17 January 1999 (S/1999/49) until 23 February 1999.

II. POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

2. The situation in Angola remains grave, with heavy fighting continuing to rage in several parts of the country. Deep animosity and distrust have persisted between the Government of Angola and the União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola (UNITA) led by Mr. Jonas Savimbi.

3. On 27 January 1999, the National Assembly of Angola adopted several resolutions, in one of which it accused the international community of complacency, acquiescence and bias and of making it easy for Mr. Savimbi to rearm and prepare for war. The Assembly also reiterated its view that the mandate of the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola (MONUA) should be ended. In another resolution, the Assembly declared Mr. Savimbi a war criminal and international terrorist and called for his and his collaborators' arrest and prosecution and stressed the need to achieve total annihilation of the subversion headed by Mr. Savimbi. These resolutions were adopted unanimously, with those UNITA deputies present voting in favour.

4. On 18 February, the Chief State Prosecutor of Angola indicated that Mr. Savimbi would be charged with war crimes and that proceedings against him would start soon.

5. On 29 January, the President of Angola, José Eduardo dos Santos, appointed a new cabinet and temporarily assumed the functions of Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces. Speaking at this occasion, the President stated that the measure would enable his Government to deal more

effectively with the war effort against UNITA and the dire socio-economic situation in Angola. At the inaugural ceremony of the new Government, which included new ministers of defence, interior and foreign affairs, the President stated that Angola had to wage war to achieve peace.

6. The Secretary-General of the Movimento Popular da Libertação de Angola (MPLA), Mr. Lourenco, said on 8 February that the second round of the presidential elections, which had been delayed since 1995, would be put off again in view of the renewed fighting. Subsequently, on 18 February, the Government of Angola and the UNITA Restoration Committee (UNITA-Renovada), which was established in Luanda in September 1998, held a joint meeting in Luanda to review the implementation of the Lusaka Protocol (S/1994/1441, annex). It was agreed that the presidential elections, required under the terms of the Lusaka Protocol, would be cancelled.

7. UNITA-Renovada held its congress in Luanda from 11 to 14 January 1999, and elected Mr. Manuvakola as its new President. The Congress reaffirmed its commitment to the Lusaka Protocol and declared the intention of UNITA-Renovada to help implement all of its provisions. The newly elected President called on the United Nations to reformulate its policy on Angola. On 2 February, the National Assembly suspended the five UNITA deputies, who were arrested during the first half of January for their alleged collusion with Mr. Savimbi, thereby lifting their immunity. According to reports, the families of these deputies and their lawyers have not been allowed to visit them and the families experienced difficulties in providing them with food. Several UNITA deputies have also expressed fear for their lives after MONUA's expected withdrawal from Angola.

8. On 3 February, the Standing Committee of the Political Commission of UNITA issued a statement from Bailundo expressing serious disagreement with the assessment of the three Observer States (Portugal, the Russian Federation and the United States of America) regarding the current situation in Angola. UNITA laid the blame for the current crisis on the Government and, in particular, President dos Santos who, it claimed, had openly declared war on UNITA. The UNITA leadership also claimed that it believed in dialogue and consultations on the basis of a new and realistic platform.

9. On 4 February, the new Angolan Minister of Defence, Mr. Paihama, warned neighbouring countries that had allegedly provided Mr. Savimbi with material and logistical support, that Angola reserved the right of retaliation and hot pursuit. The Government named seven African States which, it claimed, had links with Mr. Savimbi. One of these countries, Zambia, has publicly denied these allegations and requested that international organizations verify Angola's claims. The Permanent Representative of Zambia to the United Nations has informed the Security Council of his Government's position in this regard in a letter dated 18 February addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/1999/182).

10. Also on 3 February, my Special Representative, Issa B. Y. Diallo, who continued to make every effort to maintain contacts with all parties concerned, received a telephone call from the Secretary-General of UNITA, Mr. Gato, who complained of attempts to sideline his organization, citing as an example the

Security Council's presidential statement of 21 January. He also complained that humanitarian assistance was not reaching people in UNITA-controlled areas.

11. In a letter addressed to me dated 18 February 1999, Mr. Savimbi claimed, inter alia, that the war was the sole and exclusive responsibility of the Government of Angola. According to the letter, the UNITA leadership maintained its position that the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola should continue in its original format as a useful witness and as a facilitator of a rapprochement between the parties. Mr. Savimbi also stated that the current conflict could never be resolved by military means.

12. On 18 February, my Special Representative briefed the Security Council on the situation in Angola and on the status of his consultations with the Angolan authorities concerning the future presence of the United Nations in Angola. On 22 February, the Vice-Minister of Territorial Administration of Angola, General Higino Carneiro, provided a briefing to Security Council members under the "Arria formula".

III. MILITARY SITUATION

13. There has been a marked escalation in fighting between Government and UNITA forces. On 26 January 1999, UNITA launched an unexpected offensive in Zaire province and captured M'Banza Congo on 26 January, threatening the Soyo oil fields on the western coast. Its troops were reported to have advanced to Tomboco where they are engaged in heavy combat with the Angolan Armed Forces (FAA). Since then, the Government has reportedly reinforced areas surrounding Soyo and Tomboco and took over M'Banza Congo on 12 February 1999. However, some reports indicate that UNITA captured the town of Maquela de Zombo in Uige province.

14. In the central highlands, FAA is reported to have made substantial gains. It captured Catabola and N'harea (30 kilometres east of Andulo) around 30 January 1999, as well as several other areas around Andulo, in an apparent bid to isolate that UNITA stronghold. UNITA forces reportedly blew up two vital bridges on the road to Andulo to block the Government's offensive. UNITA forces have briefly captured Chitembo, thus threatening the town of Kuito from the south. Kuito itself appears to be secure, with FAA flights and limited road convoys arriving regularly from Huambo. Renewed fighting was reported near Huambo, with artillery duels around Vila Nova, Bela Vista and Chipipa. The frontline in those areas now appears to have stabilized. UNITA troops continue to control areas north and south of Huambo. Nevertheless, the road Huambo-Caala-Lobito remains open to traffic.

15. UNITA forces continued to shell the town of Malange intermittently and also captured Capenda hydroelectric project about 50 kilometres south-west of Malange town around 30 January 1999. There have been large numbers of civilian casualties in the town, which is overwhelmed by the influx of almost 100,000 internally displaced persons. Government sources reported that FAA forces have taken Cagandala and are advancing towards Caribo, both in Malanje province. Tensions have also been building up around the Luzamba diamond mines, in Andrada and Dundo (Lunda Norte province) along the border with the Democratic Republic

of the Congo, as well as in northern Huila province. On 9 February, UNITA announced that its forces had captured two diamond mines in the north-east part of the country and killed 19 foreigners. The country is also rife with rumours of the induction of a large number of foreign troops, by both sides. The presence of Congolese troops, who are reportedly undergoing training with FAA, has been confirmed in the Lubango and Matala areas. However, there has been no concrete confirmation of the presence of other foreign troops.

IV. SECURITY OF UNITED NATIONS PERSONNEL

16. On 1 February 1999, in a tragic incident in Huambo, two elements of the Angolan National Police (ANP) fatally stabbed a member of the Namibian contingent of MONUA. The matter has been vigorously pursued with the local ANP and government authorities in Huambo and Luanda and the culprits have since been arrested. The Angolan authorities have promised to conduct a thorough investigation into the incident and take appropriate action against the perpetrators of this crime. In another incident in Huambo on 3 February, elements of ANP, presumably intoxicated, fired two rounds towards the camp of the Namibian contingent in Huambo. One of the bullets landed on the floor where Namibian soldiers were sleeping.

17. There were two mine incidents while the Namibian military task force was being relocated by road from Huambo to Lubango. On 6 February 1999, a contingent tractor detonated an anti-tank mine near Tchindjinje airstrip. Fortunately, there were no injuries. On 9 February, while the Namibia convoy was 16 kilometres from the town of Quilengues, an armoured personnel carrier hit another anti-tank mine and was seriously damaged. As a result, one United Nations soldier suffered minor injuries.

18. After extensive negotiations, on 25 January 1999 a United Nations investigation team, with an escort from UNITA, reached the site of the crash of United Nations flight 806A, which went down on 2 January. The site was located 20 miles north-east of the city of Huambo. Owing to the difficulty of reaching the site by road, the team had a little over an hour at that location. Based on preliminary observations of the team, it would appear that the aircraft was attempting to make an emergency landing when major sections of the aircraft started to come apart and it fell out of control. It would further appear that the aircraft had been on fire and continued to burn after impact. Both the cockpit voice and flight data recorders had been removed from the aircraft and could not be found. Some aircraft parts were strewn across a radius of 300 metres. There were numerous bullet holes in the tail section of the aircraft, which fell off on a nearby hill. It is highly unlikely that any of the passengers and crew members could have survived the crash, since the portion of the aircraft that had carried the passengers and the crew was totally destroyed. Very few human remains have been recovered.

19. Efforts to revisit the crash site of the first aircraft near Vila Nova have not succeeded so far, owing to the prevailing insecurity in the area. Although the MONUA office in Huambo has been relocated to Luanda, MONUA continues to maintain close contacts with the Government and FAA authorities with a view to arranging a second visit. The United Nations, both in the field and at

Headquarters, will continue to persist in gaining access to both sites, in order to conduct the necessary investigation and, to this end, urges the parties to extend their full cooperation.

V. HUMAN RIGHTS ASPECTS

20. The escalation of hostilities in Malange, Uige and Zaire provinces and the continued fighting in Huambo and Bie provinces have further contributed to the dramatic deterioration in the human rights situation. The civilian population is bearing the full brunt of the warfare. Indiscriminate shelling of the town of Malange by UNITA, in clear violation of the Geneva Conventions, killed at least several dozen persons between 4 and 8 January 1999 and injured numerous others. Shells fired in broad daylight caused the greatest loss of civilian life when they fell in three busy market places and residential areas, apparently in an attempt to terrorize the population. The fate of non-combatants or wounded soldiers remains unclear, particularly since requests for access to prisoners of war have yet to be granted by both sides.

21. The increase in the number of abuses committed against members of the Roman Catholic Church in the last year is of grave concern, with mission property and personnel being targeted for harassment, ill-treatment and killings or attempted killings. In early January 1999, Father Albino Sawaku and two catechists in Huambo province were reportedly shot dead by six unidentified men allegedly belonging to UNITA. The priest's body was later mutilated with machetes in front of witnesses. Protestant churches have also not escaped abuses, particularly from government elements, as was the case in Cuanza Sul and eastern Uige, where such churches might have been seen as being more sympathetic to UNITA.

22. In the present climate of war, freedom of expression has come under pressure. In January 1999, two journalists of a privately owned radio station in Benguela were arbitrarily detained by police, interrogated but then released without charge, over the retransmission of a radio report quoting UNITA. Such incidents have discouraged the public from participating in the radio station's "phone-in" programme which used to include criticisms of the authorities.

23. Despite the armed conflict, the Government has continued its welcome cooperation with MONUA in the area of capacity-building aimed at strengthening the rule of law. The serious overcrowding of the Viana prison in Luanda has highlighted the chronic lack of resources facing the Angolan judicial system and the resulting conditions which have fallen below international minimum standards. Over a thousand detainees in Viana - of whom nearly 90 per cent are awaiting trial - are housed in a building meant for half that number. In collaboration with government authorities, MONUA has initiated projects to address these issues.

VI. HUMANITARIAN SITUATION

24. The humanitarian situation in Angola has shown no sign of improvement. Indeed, all indications point to a further deterioration of the condition of vulnerable populations over the coming months. The situation has attained

devastating proportions, and could be compared with the humanitarian catastrophe in Angola during the fighting in 1993 and 1994.

25. The effects of the conflict have led to further displacements of the civilian population during the month of February, with the total number of confirmed internally displaced persons now having reached over 550,000 persons. Moreover, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has reported that 19,000 Angolan refugees have recently arrived in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, fleeing the recent fighting in Uige and Zaire provinces. Also among the immediate consequences of the war are the higher level of malnutrition, especially among young children, and the dismal sanitation and health conditions which are seriously increasing the risk of epidemics. In some areas of the country, there are reports of outbreaks of tuberculosis. The situation has become considerably worse owing to the serious overcrowding in many of the camps and other locations where internally displaced persons are sheltered.

26. In spite of the deteriorating security situation, United Nations agencies and programmes resumed their air operations to most provincial capitals in mid-January 1999. Food and medicine stocks have been replenished to contend with possible supply constraints. However, owing to the prevailing insecurity and harassment by some local security forces, which has often included confiscation of equipment, the humanitarian community is still maintaining a reduced presence in most provincial capitals. This is seriously hampering the normal conduct of humanitarian operations, in particular food distribution and health-related projects. At present only emergency projects are being undertaken. The delivery of relief items under current circumstances, and in the foreseeable future, will entail a significant cost increase, since almost all deliveries would have to be conducted by air.

27. The fighting in the country and the withdrawal of international personnel from the provinces have seriously hampered the United Nations mine action programme in Angola. At the same time, all efforts are made to keep the programme operational through assisting Angola in building national capacity for mine clearance and through the promotion of mine awareness.

28. The ability of the humanitarian community to operate in Angola has been seriously affected by the constraints on access, including to UNITA-controlled areas and other areas of conflict where the population might be suffering. It is assumed that the needs of these groups could surpass those to which the humanitarian community already has access. In the prevailing situation, the humanitarian principles of unrestricted access to affected populations, independent assessment and monitoring, and safety and security of humanitarian personnel, are not being realized. In order to achieve these objectives, a clear and unequivocal commitment to respect the provisions of international humanitarian law is necessary on the part of all concerned.

29. As indicated in my previous report (S/1999/49), in the prevailing circumstances humanitarian organizations will have to strengthen their presence in Angola, put in place enhanced communication networks and take additional security measures. Bearing in mind the increased requirements of carrying out humanitarian operations in exceedingly difficult conditions, I would like to

appeal once again to the generosity of donors to fund fully and urgently the 1999 United Nations Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for Angola. A number of agencies have already reviewed their requirements for 1999 and a meeting with donors to review the Appeal is to be held in Geneva in March 1999.

VII. DRAWDOWN OF MONUA AND ITS LIQUIDATION PHASE

30. The relocation of United Nations personnel and equipment has proceeded smoothly and, generally, according to the existing plans, despite the shortages of air assets at MONUA's disposal. All United Nations team sites and regional headquarters were relocated to Luanda by 23 February.

31. Since the beginning of 1999, a total of 325 MONUA military and civilian police observers have been repatriated. With regard to the formed units, the Namibian contingent was repatriated on 22 February, while the Portuguese signal unit is expected to leave Angola by the end of February 1999. The Russian helicopter unit is scheduled to depart soon after the expiration of MONUA's mandate.

32. It was initially envisaged that up to 200 personnel, to be drawn from infantry units currently serving with MONUA, would form the security detachment that would remain temporarily in Luanda to protect United Nations property during the liquidation phase following the expiration of MONUA's mandate on 26 February. As a result of further review, it is now estimated that up to 260 troops will be required to provide the necessary protection. The Secretariat is continuing its consultations with troop-contributing countries and is also exploring other options for the security of MONUA during the liquidation phase. I also trust that the Government of Angola, in accordance with the Status of Mission Agreement, will continue to ensure the security and safety of United Nations personnel in Angola.

33. The technical liquidation of MONUA and its predecessors, whose combined presence in Angola spans a period of almost 10 years, presents a significant challenge to the Organization. This task, which may take over six months to complete, will demand the presence in Angola of a substantial number of administrative, logistical and other personnel, as well as a small medical unit. In addition, it will require the retaining, for a period of up to two to three months after the mandate ends, of about 30 staff officers and a dozen police officers who would assist in the liquidation. Most of the remaining military, police and civilian personnel would be repatriated by the end of March 1999.

VIII. OBSERVATIONS

34. Following the presidential statement of 21 January (S/PRST/1999/3) in which the Security Council expressed itself to be in favour of a continued multidisciplinary presence of the United Nations in Angola, I instructed my Special Representative to enter urgently into consultations with the Angolan Government. Subsequently, through a note verbale dated 27 January 1999, the Government informed my Special Representative that, in its view, a continued multidisciplinary presence of the United Nations in Angola was not necessary.

In the same communication, the Government expressed the view that the United Nations should continue its activities through the specialized agencies, under the coordination of the United Nations Development Programme.

35. This notwithstanding and pursuant to the 21 February presidential statement, I wrote a letter to President dos Santos on 1 February, soliciting his personal views on the matter so that these could be conveyed to the Council. Mr. Diallo delivered this letter during an audience with the President on 9 February 1999. In his reply (S/1999/166), dated 11 February, President dos Santos indicated that his Government would continue to deal with representatives of United Nations agencies and programmes on issues related to humanitarian assistance, human rights and other matters of interest to the people of Angola. As for MONUA, the Government considered that conditions for maintaining a MONUA presence had ceased to exist. In his letter, President dos Santos further emphasized that his Government was not opposed to the appointment of a representative of the Secretary-General who, from New York, could maintain contact with the Government of Angola in monitoring the evolution of the situation in the country.

36. I intend to continue consultations with the Government of Angola concerning the modalities of the future presence of the United Nations and will inform the Security Council in due course of the outcome of these consultations.

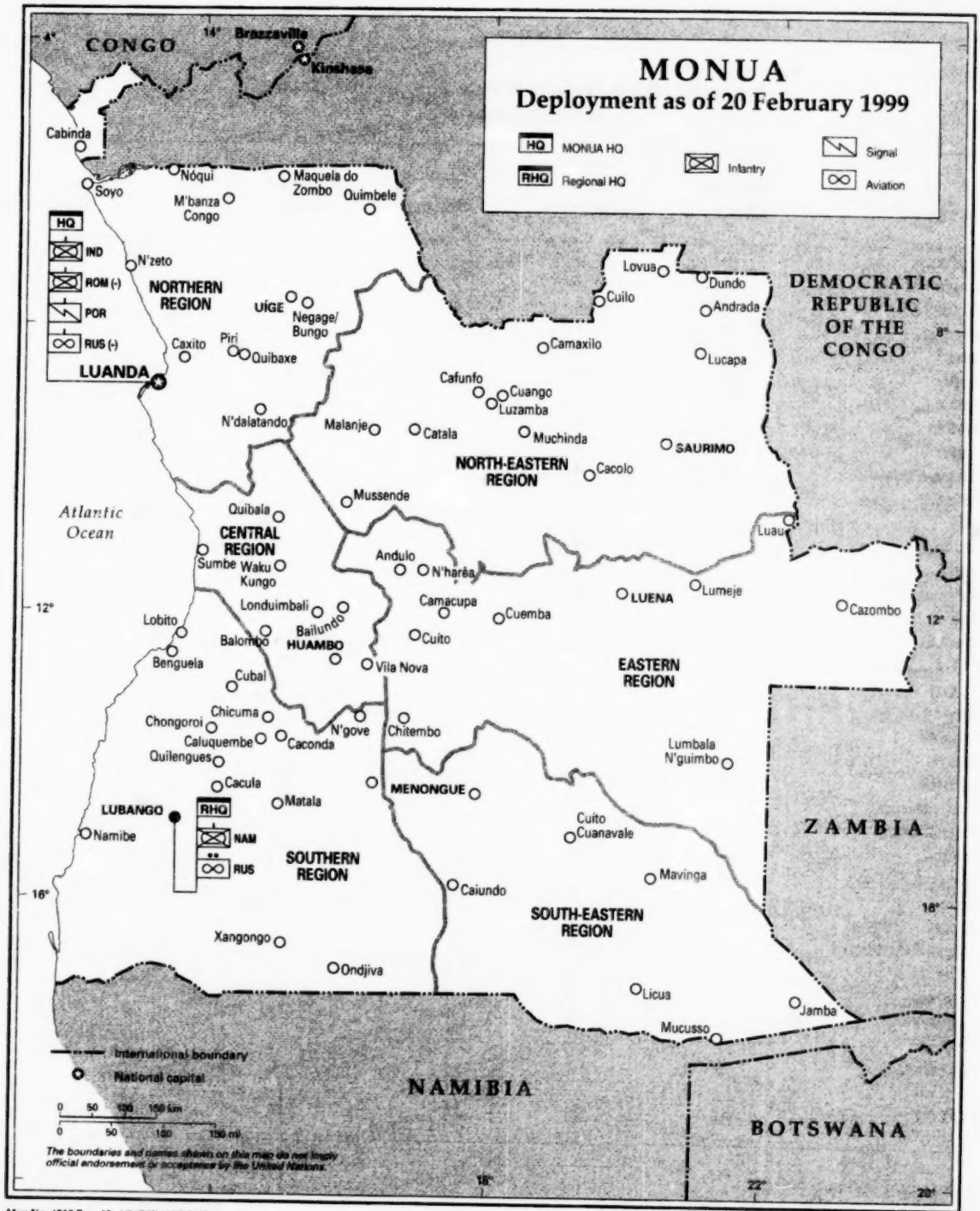
37. In conclusion, I would like to pay tribute to my Special Representative, to the Force Commander and to all military, police and civilian personnel of MONUA, as well as to humanitarian workers and representatives of non-governmental organizations, for the courageous and dedicated way in which they have been carrying out their duties in the dangerous situation prevailing in Angola. They, as well as their colleagues who served with MONUA's predecessors, can and should take pride in their efforts to help the Angolans to finally achieve lasting peace and national reconciliation. These goals should continue to guide the future presence of the United Nations in this country.

ANNEX

The United Nations Observer Mission in Angola: contributions as at 20 February 1999

Country	Military Observers	Civilian Police Observers	Staff Officers [a]	Troops	
Argentina	--	2	--	--	2
Bangladesh	2	1	--	--	3
Brazil	--	2	2	--	4
Bulgaria	1	1	--	--	2
Congo	1	--	--	--	1
Egypt	2	4	--	--	6
France	1	--	--	--	1
Gambia	--	1	--	--	1
Ghana	3	2	--	--	5
Guinea-Bissau	2	4	--	--	6
Hungary	1	1	--	--	2
India	5	2	3	138	148
Jordan	1	2	--	--	3
Kenya	1	--	--	--	1
Malaysia	1	4	--	--	5
Mali	--	1	--	--	1
Namibia	--	--	--	131	131
New Zealand	--	--	--	--	--
Nigeria	2	3	--	--	5
Norway	1	--	--	--	1
Pakistan	3	--	1 [b]	--	4
Poland	2	--	--	--	2
Portugal	1	7	3	40	51
Romania	--	--	--	138	138
Russian Federation	3	--	--	99	99
Senegal	2	--	--	--	2
Slovakia	3	--	--	--	3
Spain	--	2	--	--	2
Sweden	--	3	--	--	3
United Republic of Tanzania	--	1	--	--	1
Ukraine	--	--	--	--	--
Uruguay	2	6	1	--	9
Zambia	1	2	4	--	7
Zimbabwe	--	3	2	--	5
TOTAL	38	54	16	546	654

a/ Including military police.
b/ A military specialist in the demining school.



Map No. 4016 Rev. 12 UNITED NATIONS
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Cartographic Section

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/203
26 February 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Draft resolution

The Security Council,

Reaffirming its resolution 696 (1991) of 30 May 1991 and all subsequent relevant resolutions, in particular resolutions 864 (1993) of 15 September 1993, 1127 (1997) of 28 August 1997 and 1173 (1998) of 12 June 1998, as well as resolutions 1219 (1998) of 31 December 1998 and 1221 (1999) of 12 January 1999,

Recalling the statements of its President of 23 December 1998 (S/PRST/1998/37) and of 21 January 1999 (S/PRST/1999/3),

Reaffirming its commitment to preserve the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Angola,

Reiterating that the primary cause of the present situation in Angola is the failure of the União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola (UNITA) under the leadership of Mr. Jonas Savimbi to comply with its obligations under the "Acordos de Paz" (S/22609, annex), the Lusaka Protocol (S/1994/1441, annex) and relevant Security Council resolutions,

Expressing its concern at the humanitarian effects of the present situation on the civilian population of Angola,

Reiterating that lasting peace and national reconciliation can only be achieved through peaceful means and in this regard reaffirming the importance of the "Acordos de Paz", the Lusaka Protocol and relevant Security Council resolutions,

Underscoring the contribution of the United Nations to the past four years of relative peace in Angola, and expressing its deep regret that the present political and security situation in the country has prevented the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola (MONUA) from fully carrying out its mandated role,

Taking note of the letter of the President of the Republic of Angola to the Secretary-General of 11 February 1999 (S/1999/166),

Reaffirming its view that a continued presence of the United Nations in Angola can contribute greatly to national reconciliation, and noting the ongoing

consultations with the Government of Angola to obtain its agreement regarding the practical arrangements for this presence,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 24 February 1999 (S/1999/202),

1. Takes note that the mandate of MONUA expires on 26 February 1999;

2. Endorses the recommendations contained in paragraphs 32 and 33 of the report of the Secretary-General of 24 February 1999 regarding the technical liquidation of MONUA;

3. Affirms that notwithstanding the expiration of the mandate of MONUA, the Status of Forces Agreement applicable to MONUA remains in force, pursuant to relevant provisions thereof, until the departure of the final elements of MONUA from Angola;

4. Decides that the human rights component of MONUA will continue its current activities during the liquidation period;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to designate a channel to liaise with the Government of Angola pending the conclusion of the consultations with the Government of Angola regarding the follow-up configuration of the United Nations presence in Angola;

6. Calls upon all concerned to cooperate with the United Nations humanitarian assistance activities throughout the national territory of Angola on the basis of the principles of neutrality and non-discrimination and to guarantee the security and freedom of movement of humanitarian personnel;

7. Expresses its deep concern at the lack of progress in investigating the downing of the two aircraft chartered by the United Nations and the loss under suspicious circumstances of other commercial aircraft over UNITA controlled areas, and reiterates its call upon all concerned, especially UNITA, to cooperate fully with and to facilitate an immediate and objective international investigation of these incidents;

8. Endorses the recommendations contained in the report of 12 February 1999 of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 864 (1993) (S/1999/147), reiterates its readiness to take steps to reinforce the measures against UNITA contained in resolutions 864 (1993), 1127 (1997) and 1173 (1998) and calls upon all Member States to implement fully these measures;

9. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/204
25 February 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

NOTE BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

1. At the 83rd plenary meeting, on 8 December 1998, the General Assembly adopted resolution 53/107, entitled "Implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions".[1]

2. In paragraphs 1 and 2 of the resolution, the General Assembly:

> "1. Renews its invitation to the Security Council to consider the establishment of further mechanisms or procedures, as appropriate, for consultations as early as possible under Article 50 of the Charter of the United Nations with third States, which are or may be confronted with special economic problems arising from the carrying out of preventive or enforcement measures imposed by the Council under Chapter VII of the Charter, with regard to a solution of those problems, including appropriate ways and means for increasing the effectiveness of its methods and procedures applied in the consideration of requests by the affected States for assistance;
>
> "2. Welcomes once again the further measures taken by the Security Council since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 50/51 and aimed at increasing the effectiveness and transparency of the sanctions committees, invites the Council to implement those measures, and strongly recommends that the Council continue its efforts to enhance further the functioning of the sanctions committees, to streamline their working procedures and to facilitate access to them by representatives of States that find themselves confronted with special economic problems arising from the carrying out of sanctions".

Notes

[1] Not reproduced in the present document; for the full text, see General Assembly resolution 53/107.

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